
Blissymbolics
Communication
Foundation

✦ gathering
✦ dissemination
⊗ blissymbolics
x much, many

862 Eglinton Avenue E.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M4G 2L1
(416) 425-7835

MARCH 1978

VOLUME III NUMBER 2



BULLETIN



AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL INTERESTED FRIENDS
AND ASSOCIATES OF THE B.C.F.

FROM GEORGE WILSON, CHAIRMAN
B.C.F. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The B.C.F. began with the assistance and participation of Charles K. Bliss in 1975. Not long thereafter Mr. Bliss became dissatisfied with our Foundation and since then those associated with the B.C.F. as staff, volunteers or as Board members, have kept a public silence concerning our disagreements with Mr. Bliss in the hope that with time, mutual understanding and respect, all problems would eventually be resolved. Despite our intensive efforts, through the mails and particularly during Mr. Bliss' visits to Canada, we have been unsuccessful in our attempts to bring about an amicable settlement.

Information has reached us that Mr. Bliss is now speaking and writing to many of our licensees, Resource Centres, associates and friends in a most accusatory and antagonistic way. We regret very much that he has seen fit to attack our Foundation and Staff in this manner, and it leaves us no alternative but to refute the misleading information he has chosen to disseminate. For all who are interested we will make available at our offices the complete story and sequence of events which has led to this present unhappy state. To the best of our knowledge, everyone who has heard and examined the facts, sympathizes with our position and what we are trying to do, and have accomplished. They also recognize that we are forced to deal with an artistic but intractable genius who will neither negotiate in good faith nor live up to the many promises of assistance which he has made from time to time over the years, not only to the Foundation staff but to me personally.

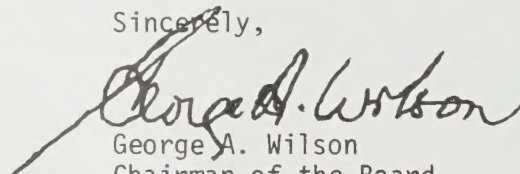
We have requested the opinion of our counsel and that of a specialist in copyright law and have been advised that the 1975 Agreement between the B.C.F. and Mr. Bliss (with respect to which he received highly qualified independent legal advice) cannot legally be unilaterally cancelled by him. We therefore continue to be authorized to use the symbols and to permit others to do the same. As much as possible, and as funds permit, we will continue to honour our commitments under the Agreement but extreme difficulty is caused when Mr. Bliss refuses to consult, advise or comment on either old or newly developed symbols.

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Mr. Bliss claims never to have received "a cent for himself"! Financially, we agreed, at his request, to provide him with "reimbursement for expenses of the Semantography Trust of Australia". For 1975-76 Mr. Bliss received from the Foundation on behalf of the Trust \$10,000, in 1976-77 \$11,000 and in 1977-78 \$12,000. Prior to 1975 the Ontario Crippled Children's Centre made "ex gratia" payments to Mr. Bliss amounting to some thousands of dollars. Let us examine the situation as though Mr. Bliss had been entitled to receive a ten percent royalty on sales of literature and products and on royalties received by the B.C.F. In the six-month period July 1 to December 31, 1977 (our highest period of gross revenues from these sources), he would have been paid the sum of \$2,294 less a fifteen percent withholding tax for a net amount of \$1,950. In fact, the Trust received for the same period a \$6,000 tax free contribution to its expenses.

We no longer intend to let Mr. Bliss proceed with his charges and allegations unchallenged. Please forward to us any complaints or criticisms you may receive from him, especially copies of any written communications. Our staff will reply to his statements and answer your questions as accurately and expeditiously as time and staff will permit. We continue to be grateful for your encouragement, support and understanding during this difficult period. Please be assured that we will do all in our power to further the work of the Foundation so that Blissymbolics can become a standard method of communication for all people, but particularly for the handicapped who may now for the first time express their thoughts, ideas and values to those around them.

Sincerely,


George A. Wilson
Chairman of the Board
of Directors

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMME
DEVELOPMENT - Shirley McNaughton

We deeply regret Mr. Bliss' decision to discontinue his consultation to the B.C.F., and the manner in which he has intensified his criticism of symbols appearing on early O.C.C.C. and later B.C.F. symbol displays. Symbols produced in the early days are being reviewed and remedied as necessary; they were created at a time when we lacked the experience we now have both with symbols and with the ways of Mr. Bliss.

The original symbol displays were developed by an interdisciplinary team consisting of a teacher, a psychologist, a speech pathologist, a linguist, an occupational therapist, and a rehabilitation engineer. Decisions regarding symbols were based on several criteria, all emanating from the usage of Blissymbols as an augmentative to speech. These criteria will continue to affect decisions in the future and will always differentiate the B.C.F. special application of Blissymbols to a non-speaking population from the original purpose for Blissymbols of C. K. Bliss. Our present team and

Dr. Silverman endeavour, with experience, to balance the educational and communication needs of the user with the concepts of Mr. Bliss as outlined in Semantography and his consultation to the B.C.F.

Prior to selecting a symbol for inclusion in a display, the following questions are asked:

1. Does the symbol enable a child to say what he/she needs and wants to say?
2. Should the symbol take priority over other available symbols? (given the very limited number of spaces available)
3. Does the wording which accompanies the symbol have meaning to the child? (Would we expect him/her to use it if he/she could speak?)
4. Can the meaning of the symbol be explained to the child by referring to its component parts?
5. Do the symbol and wording appear in the simplest, most concise form?

With the added experience and valued advice of many symbol instructors and users, and with the desire to protect as much as possible the original symbols designed by C.K.Bliss, the B.C.F. is making revisions to many early symbol decisions. Our work over the past year in re-drawing all symbols and creating master symbols for all publications, is nearing completion. Throughout this project, our respect for the system's potential and our awareness of the many small inconsistencies appearing in print have been heightened.

Our practice with regard to maintaining a standard symbol presentation will remain as it is now. Whenever Mr. Bliss' concerns are known they will be studied with reference to

current symbol usage and the recommendations of symbol instructors. A decision regarding the B.C.F. symbol form will then be made by our executive director, Dr. Harry Silverman, arbiter agreed to by C.K.Bliss in the legal agreement between the B.C.F. and C.K.Bliss, July 5, 1975.

The steps followed in developing each new symbol remain as follows:

1. Suggested symbols are submitted to the B.C.F. symbol officer, Jinny Storr. They come from instructors, users, parents and B.C.F. staff and consultants.
2. Symbols are studied by the symbol officer. Adjustments are made relating to: ease of learning; conformity to the existing system as developed by C.K.Bliss; length limitations imposed by the physical configuration of the visual displays and stamps.
3. Suggested symbol form is sent to C.K.Bliss for his comments within a designated period of time according to the provisions of the 1975 legal agreement.
4. The symbol with C.K.Bliss' response, if received, and with symbol officer's rationale is examined by Dr. H. Silverman, arbiter. Dr. Silverman decides the form to be included in the B.C.F. standard vocabulary.

When we are aware that Mr. Bliss prefers a symbol which differs in composition and/or wording from the B.C.F. version and when it is necessary to print newly-constructed symbols for which Mr. Bliss has not provided consultation, these symbols will be designated with (B).

We are gratified to have arrived at the standard form of over 1000 symbols. The forms of symbols to appear on the new stamps are a result of over six

years experience with symbol usage and with Mr. Bliss. We hope the changes will not create too difficult an adjustment for symbol users. We thank you in advance for adhering to the standard B.C.F. symbols. We hope symbol users around the world will benefit from the consistency of symbols in the B.C.F. standard form.

We at the B.C.F. will continue to honour our commitment within the legal agreement with C.K.Bliss. We feel strongly our responsibility to provide training and materials and to maintain and develop the means for information exchange regarding the application of Blissymbols. Our objectives are two-fold: symbol instruction meeting the needs of the many non-speaking persons throughout the world; a standard form of the symbols being available to all symbol users.

We hope you will continue to support us in our effort. There are many ways in which we invite your involvement: associate membership; using the B.C.F. standard form of Blissymbols and updating symbols as improvements are made; obtaining B.C.F. accredited training for symbol instructors; hiring B.C.F. accredited professionals for involvement in Blissymbol programmes; sharing your experiences with Blissymbols through the Newsletter; communicating with the B.C.F. if you have concerns.

We all know that any new achievement requires a strong belief in the worthiness of the goals and the combined efforts of many. We need your sharing and support.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMME
IMPLEMENTATION - Juanne Hemsol

B.C.F. January to June 1978

Workshops and Products

The first six months of 1978 is a time for consolidation following a period of rapid growth which went before. Emphasis is on Workshops and products; training and development. To date, expenses for Workshops have far outweighed the income, leaving us with a deficit. Now that we have time to organize our Workshop section, with constant monitoring of our resources and by holding more Workshops we should attain the balanced budget we must have in order to continue operating.

Funding

The funding that we have, plus money generated through the Workshops, must cover the expense of preparing and printing all the materials for our Workshops, including the Presenter Kits, developing and preparing products for sale and staffing our organization.

The Board has approved a Finance Committee to concentrate specifically on seeking funding from various sources. At present, the Committee is made up of three Board members - Board Chairman, George Wilson, Watson Muter and John MacDonald, and three staff members - Shirley McNaughton, Juanne Hemsol and Margaret Schmieder. The committee has met twice and intends to keep in touch and meet on a regular basis.

One particular concern has been the printing of the Handbook. We have finally been able to budget for its publication because we have a printer who will produce the Handbook in relatively small quantities. We are able to cover the initial outlay which means no more delays! It will be ready in May.

Ideas for funding would be welcome. Our need is great - it is imperative that we find a source of funds to assist with our operating expenses. Provincial Ministries across Canada are aware of Blissymbol programmes and are supportive. The B.C.F. is a national organization, with very strong international links, and this severely limits our ability to effectively appeal for funding to local or provincial sources. Local programmes are more likely to be funded provincially or municipally, as well as having appeal to groups and organizations in the immediate area. Either way, it requires a great deal of effort, but chances are good that your funding requests could meet with success. Your efforts at the local and provincial levels are supportive to the B.C.F. organization in our appeals for funding as national agency. We would appreciate knowing about any proposals you make, and if they are rejected or accepted. We are also interested in Blissymbolic funding activities in the United States. Please share your experiences with us.

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PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

The "Blisscom" - Peter Reich

Work is continuing on the display for the Blisscom, a device being developed by Trace Center, Madison, Wisconsin. The vocabulary of over 800 symbols and alphabetic characters, has been selected from lists of available symbols, lists of symbols requested by users, and lists of the most frequently used English words.

The Blisscom will have a capability of printing the symbols, and also of producing a record of symbols used for later analysis. Target date for beginning to evaluate the Blisscom is February.

A sub-set of the Blisscom symbols has been chosen for a new standard 512 display, the first application of which will be the Romich 512 electronic display.

The Blissymbol vocabulary for the Prentke-Romich 512 electronic display is nearing completion. This display will offer several scanning options. Further information is available from: Prentke-Romich,
R.D. 2, Box 191,
Shreve, Ohio 44676

Blissymbols To Use - Barbara Hehner

The dictionary for symbol users has a name! Blissymbols To Use - the editor-compiler, Barbara Hehner is now concentrating attention upon the Word to Symbol section. It will be arranged by meaning categories under six heads (such as Living Things) and thirty-six sub-heads (such as Plants, Animals, and Human Beings). This arrangement will allow more scope for explanation of the relationships among the symbols than an alphabetical listing.

The editor-compiler is indebted to Patrick Drysdale for his consultation and meaning categories included in his children's thesaurus.

A beginning has been made with the translation into French.

It's exciting to watch a book take shape.

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Phonic Mirror Handi-Voice

We are very pleased that Phonic-Ear Limited, Mississauga, Ontario are providing the B.C.F. with HC-110 and HC-120 models of the Handi-Voice to evaluate its suitability for Blissymbol users.

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Correspondence-Workshop Programme

Dr. Eugene McDonald is developing correspondence course material in collaboration with the B.C.F. which will combine workshop participation with home assignments (see workshop schedule for details). At present, while the programme is in the developmental stage, the Correspondence-Workshop Programme is being used only at the Resource Centre in Philadelphia. When the course has been fully evaluated it will be brought out in a final format, will be owned and administered by the B.C.F. and will form an important alternative format to the regular four day workshop training course.

The correspondence course covers the equivalent of two days of a workshop and, in addition, two days attendance in person at a workshop is required to attain accreditation.

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EVALUATION OF PROTOTYPE FOR SYMBOL STAMPS

A heartfelt thank you to those who evaluated the symbol stamp prototype. For your interest the general consensus was that the idea of providing stamps was a good one. However, our experiment with reverse printing was not successful. Most users preferred the black symbol and word on white or coloured background. Other comments helped us to reach decisions about glare, colour of stamps and type of adhesive.

SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION

Anyone publishing an article containing Blissymbols is asked to first submit the article to B.C.F. to ensure that standardized forms of symbols appear. Please send your manuscript to Jinny Storr at the B.C.F.

COMMERCIAL SUB-LICENCES

We recently issued an exclusive sub-licence to Educo-Toys, (an educational toy manufacturer) for the manufacture and sale of certain symbol games and toys, designed by them. This brings to mind the possibility that some of you may be working on, or know of others engaged in the development of similar items. To save yourself time and effort, not to mention disappointment if you are hoping there is no competition in the market for your items, please check with us before embarking on projects of this nature. We can tell you if another person or organization has been given the exclusive rights to the product. We can also explain sub-licensing arrangements with you so that you can plan to protect your work through a licence with the B.C.F., and assistance can be provided in disseminating news of your work to symbol users.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Although our fiscal year-end is not until June 31, 1978, we would like to let you know what we are planning for next year with regard to Associate Membership.

For the period July, 1978 - June, 1979 we will be making Associate Membership available for \$10.00. For this sum you will receive three issues of the B.C.F. Bulletin and three issues of the Newsletter. You will also receive first priority and a reduced attendance fee when applying for a workshop. As well, a 10% discount on selected products, such as the soon-to-be published Handbook, will be offered. There will be more details on this topic in the next issue of the Bulletin.

RESOURCE CENTRES

Philadelphia - First in the U.S.

In November the first Resource Centre in the United States was established in Philadelphia at the Home of the Merciful Saviour for Crippled Children. Dr. Eugene T. McDonald is the Resource Centre Director, Margaret Lysle is the Clinic Director. Giselle Garnicki and Sally Greenberg are accredited Blissymbol instructors there. Dr. McDonald is launching a new workshop format in April and again in June. The address in Philadelphia: Blissymbolics Approved Training Center
Home of the Merciful Saviour for Crippled Children
4400 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104
telephone: (215) 222-2566

Madison, Wisconsin

Plans are being finalized to establish a Resource Centre at the University of Wisconsin - Extension Division, Madison. Deb Harris Vanderheiden will be co-ordinator, and their first Blissymbolics Elementary Workshop is tentatively scheduled for July/August.

Current B.C.F. Resource Centres

Blissymbolics Resource Centres function as training and information centres in the following areas:

Canada

Calgary, Alberta
Vancouver, British Columbia
Ottawa, Ontario
Sarnia, Ontario
Toronto, Ontario
Montreal, Quebec

United States

Philadelphia, Pa.

Overseas

United Kingdom
Sweden

Affiliate

Australia

Information Centre

Israel

International Scene

The Blissymbolics Communication Resource Centre (U.K.) conducted three workshops in 1977, and another is scheduled for February, 1978. Each workshop has been over-subscribed and provided a waiting list for the next. A fifteen week evening workshop is being planned.

The Resource Centre in Sweden is planning a spring Blissymbolics workshop.

We have an inquiry from Denmark about translations of materials for Blissymbolic programmes there.

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B.C.F. BULLETIN AND THE NEWSLETTER

Yes, there are two B.C.F. publications. The Bulletin comes from B.C.F. The Newsletter comes from you, via Editor, Barbara Rush.

Bulletin

The Bulletin is symbolized by the outward direction of arrows in the B.C.F. logo. It reports on activities of the Foundation and is compiled by the staff.

Newsletter

The Newsletter is symbolized by the inward direction of the arrows in the logo. It contains articles submitted by parents, instructors, users, and others involved with Blissymbols.

Mrs. Barbara Rush, Newsletter Editor, is always pleased to receive your contributions (shared successes and failures, delights and frustrations)
64 Magnolia Drive
Hamilton, Ontario L9C 5T2

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SYMBOL NEWS - from Jinny Storr

In the course of visits to Toronto in the summer and again in the autumn, Mr. Bliss consulted with us regarding the symbol system, the drawing of symbols and creation of new symbols.

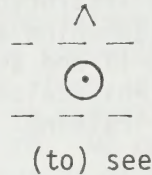
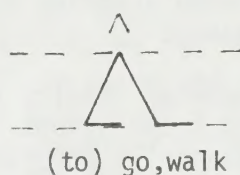
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Recent decisions affecting use of the symbol system:

Action Symbols

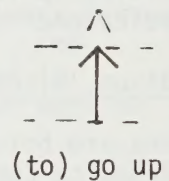
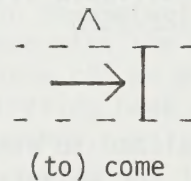
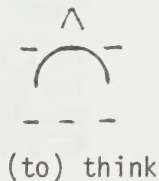
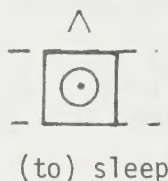
Action symbols are presented in the infinitive form. In order to make this clear, (to) will be included in the accompanying wording.

e.g.



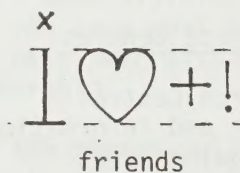
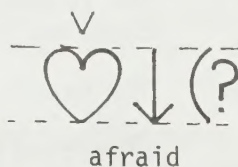
The action indicator will appear above all action symbols, including symbols incorporating the arrow.

e.g.

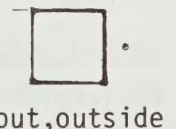
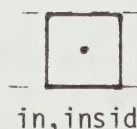
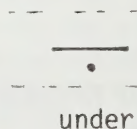
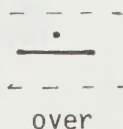
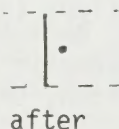
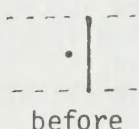
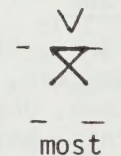
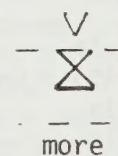
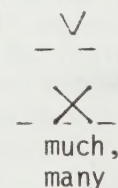
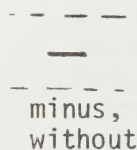
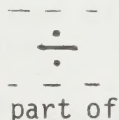
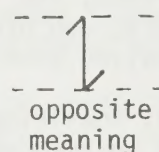


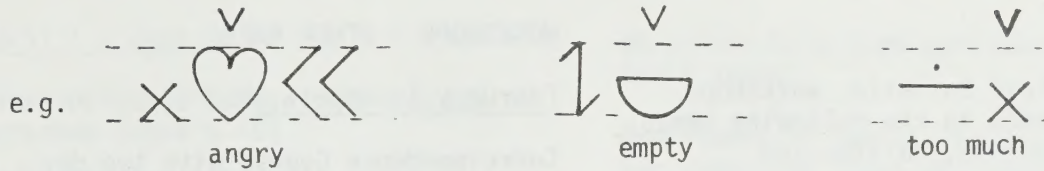
Location of Indicators

In compound or combined symbols the indicator most appropriate to the total meaning is located over the classifier. In the majority of cases, the classifier is placed first in the grouping.



Exceptions: symbols beginning with





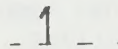
Location of Pointers

In cases where a pointer blends into a symbol shape and appears to create a new shape, the pointer is located at a small distance from the symbol (approximately one-eighth space).



Numbers

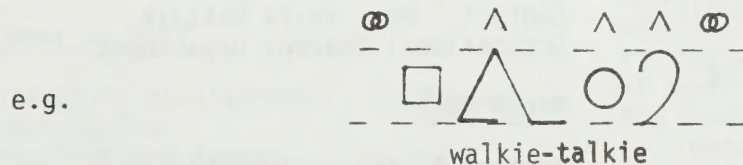
Numbers are drawn one-half space high.



Numbers will be located outside of the symbol, and one-quarter space from the symbol.



At the discretion of the creator more than one indicator may be used in a combined symbol in order to clarify meaning or for emphasis.



In future, on B.C.F. stamps and similar materials the word will appear above the symbol. This decision was prompted by experience in the classroom where it has been found that the word below the symbol tends to be obscured by the user's pointing finger.

WORKSHOPS

Since the last Bulletin, workshops have been held in the following areas; Calgary, Toronto, Halifax and Vancouver.

The need for training is increasing rapidly, hence we have a full schedule of workshops to offer in 1978, both in Toronto and other new areas throughout North America.

Dates for Workshops have been set through Fall, 1978, and are as follows:

TORONTO

Elementary

March 6-10; July 10-14; *September 25-29.

*Please note that this date has been changed from the previous listing (October 2-6), to avoid conflict with holidays.

Advanced

April 3-5; July 24-26; October 16-18

Presentors"

April 6-8; July 27-29; October 19-21

Special Interest

March 13-15 - 'Symbols & the Adult'

August 14-16 - 'Symbols & the Pre-Schooler'

Our next special interest workshop 'Symbols & the Adult' promises to be an exciting and informative one. Although the application of Blissymbols with the Adult, is a relatively new area, some people have initiated some very dynamic results.

Plan to join us!

WORKSHOPS - OTHER AREAS

February 1 - April 28

Correspondence Course with two day workshop (April 7-8)

The Home of the Merciful Saviour
for Crippled Children
4400 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19104
Contact: Dr. Eugene McDonald

February 21-24

United Cerebral Palsy Assoc. of the
Rochester Area, Inc.
1000 Elmwood Avenue
Rochester, N.Y. 14620
Contact: Elaine Stojek, Coordinator
of Speech Pathology
Phone: 716-442-4100

February 23-26

Northlake Hilton Inn
Atlanta, Georgia
Contact: Caroline Price
c/o Remlap & Associates, Inc.
Suite 918, Rhodes Haverty Building
134 Peachtree Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Phone: 404-522-0561

March 7-10

Mackay Centre (French)
3500 Decarie Blvd.
Montreal, Quebec H4A 3J5
Contact: Mrs. Keila Waksvik
Occupational Therapy Department

March 28-31

Vermont Achievement Center
88 Park Street
Rutland, Vt. 05701
Contact: Doris Farenkopf
Director, Communication Services
Phone: 802-775-2395

April 1 - June 30

Correspondence Course with two day workshop (June 9-10)
(address, see page one)

April 10-13

Child Guidance Clinic of Greater Winnipeg
700 Elgin Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 1B2
Contact: Margaret Ellis
Speech Pathologist

Approximately end of May

Sarnia & District Crippled Children's Centre
1240 Murphy Road
Sarnia, Ontario N7S-2Y6
Contact: Elaine Jones
Phone: 1-519-542-3471

May 1-4

Regina Developmental Centre
2975 Kings Road
Regina, Saskatchewan
Contact: Joan Hambly
Phone: 306-586-7303

June 12-15

Lathrope Elementary School
401 14th Street S.E.
Canton, Ohio 44707
Contact: Mrs. Ruth Novelli

Summer or Fall

University of Wisconsin - Extension
Trace Centre
1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53706
Contact: Deb Harris Vanderheiden
Phone: 1-608-262-6966

Workshops have been considered in these areas:

Department of Special Education
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, California 94132
Contact: June Bigge
Professor Special Education

June

Southern California Communication Group
& Loma Linda University Medical Centre
12517 Cloud Lane
Los Angeles, California 90049
Contact: Mrs. Betty Ann Altman
President

Como Special Programs Unit
780 West Wheelock Parkway
St. Paul, Minn. 55117
Contact: Pat Pearman

Please contact: Shirley White,
Workshop & Training Coordinator for
further details on this or any of
the above workshops.

Presentors' Pool - Workshops

We strongly encourage anyone who notes sufficient interest in their area to hold a workshop, to contact Shirley White for further information. Please keep in mind that Presentors are available for orientations, conferences, seminars of variable length and areas of special interest, depending upon the needs of the participants.

cont'd..

The Advanced Workshop/Presenter Training Session held October 24-28 was well attended and very successful. As evidenced by the numerous requests for attendance at the Spring session, to be held April 6-8, interest in the Presentors' Pool continues to grow.

There are nearly thirty Assistant Presentors under training from:

Canada

Montreal, Quebec
Toronto, Ontario
Ottawa, Ontario
Smith's Falls, Ontario
Thunder Bay, Ontario
Blenheim, Ontario
Regina, Saskatchewan
Calgary, Alberta
Vancouver, British Columbia
Victoria, British Columbia

U.S.A.

Rutland, Vermont
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Cleveland, Ohio
Columbus, Ohio
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Chicago, Illinois
Loma Linda, California
Santa Monica, California
Atlanta, Georgia

United Kingdom, Australia and Sweden

Those who have already qualified as Presentors are:

Barbara Kates	-	Canada
Joan Hurren	-	Australia
Shirley McNaughton	-	Canada
Lynnette Norris	-	Canada
Penny Parnes	-	Canada

Presenter Certification Awards

Congratulations to the following on having recently successfully completed the requirements of becoming Presenter I:

Kerstin Lorstrom	-	Sweden
Margaret McCuaig	-	Vancouver, Canada
Kerstin Wester	-	Sweden

Internship Programme

Our fall interns returned home in November, Carol Walker to England, Ruut Koopmans to Holland, and Carol Barchard to Edmonton, weary, yet eager to begin implementing some new ideas in their own settings. Congratulations to Kerstin Lorstrom and Patricia Bailey who have successfully completed their Internship assignments.

Dates for the upcoming Spring and Fall internship programmes are:

March 3 - April 8, and September 22 - October 27.

For further information and an application form, contact Shirley White at the B.C.F.

Workshop Brochures

A brochure describing various training programmes (Elementary, Advanced, Special Interest Workshops, and Internship) is now available. Copies are included in all general inquiry replies, and can be obtained in quantity upon request. The Internship brochure is available upon request as well.

Alternative Formats for Blissymbol accredited courses are being developed as noted in the Training Programmes and in this Bulletin. It would be necessary for anyone considering an alternative format at the university or college level to consult with B.C.F. regarding core agenda, length of course, accreditation of Presenter, fees, etc.

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B.C.F. PRODUCTS

New Stamps - New Grids Available

The long awaited symbol stamps and grids will be available for sale in April. The following sizes have been selected after considerable consultation with instructors and other professionals to meet the multiple needs of symbol users.

Grids

- I. 512 Vocabulary grid
Individual squares 9/16" in size
Overall board size approximately 20" x 10"
- II. 400 Vocabulary grid
Individual squares 7/8"
(this is the same size as the present 200 board)
Overall board size approximately 20" x 20"
The 400 grid has been designed to be cut into the following sizes:
 - (a) to make up two 200 grids
 - (b) to make up one 256 grid
 - (c) to make four 100 grids
 - (d) to make up anything in between

The grids will be printed on medium weight bristol board similar to the present symbol displays.

Stamps

The new vocabulary now available includes approximately 800 symbol stamps. The stamps are all colour coded, and backed with permanent adhesive. They will be printed on "mac-tac" which is water repellent. The surface will be non-glare.

For the 512 grid the stamps are 9/16" square.

For the 400 grid the stamps are 7/8" square.

Flash Cards

Flash cards will also be available, 2-5/8" square in size, color coded, and designed to fit a 3 x 3 square matrix on the 400 grid. There will be a vocabulary of 250 symbols available on flash cards. The cards do not have an adhesive back. They can be used as flash cards for drills and games or as large symbols for an introductory display.

Prices

512 grid (9/16") - \$.50

400 grid (7/8") - \$.50

Stamps

512 size 9/16") - \$8.00 (800 stamps approximately)

400 size (7/8") - \$8.50 (800 stamps approximately)

Flash Cards \$16.00 (set of 250 symbols)

New Templates Available Now

in the following sizes:

large imperial - \$10.00
(the large square on this template is 1" in size)

large metric (medium size)
- \$9.00

(large square is 21mm in size - approximately 3/4")

small metric (small size)
- \$8.00

(large square is 11mm in size - approximately 1/2")

set of 2 metric templates - \$15.00

Increased prices reflect increased costs of manufacturing.

B.C.F. PRODUCTS cont'd..

The HANDBOOK

We are now accepting orders for the Handbook of Blissymbolics for Instructors, Users, Parents and Administrators which we expect to be available in May. The price is \$20.00 per copy with a 10% discount for Associate Members.

The publication consists of two major sections:

- (1) The Handbook containing 450 pages of assessment and programming information with many practical suggestions for teaching aids;
- (2) A summary of the results of the Ontario Ministry of Education Evaluation Study of symbol users, providing the data upon which the Handbook recommendations have been based - 200 pages.

The entire volume will be inserted into a three-ring binder to allow for up-dating as further information on the application of Blissymbols becomes available.

SYMBOL SECRETS

We regret that the first printing of Symbol Secrets has been sold out. The second printing is planned for March. The selling price of \$6.00 will remain the same. Please allow until May for your order for Symbol Secrets to be sent to you.

NATIONAL FILM BOARD SERIES - AVAILABLE

"Say it with Symbols", a visual teaching aid designed by Brian Bobbie to present the meaning and uses of approximately 250 symbols, is now available for loan. The teaching series is a joint undertaking of the B.C.F. and the National Film Board of Canada. It is accompanied by a teaching manual. Symbol changes requested by Mr. Bliss have been made.

One set of the full 15 series (750 slides) will be available at the B.C.F., and at each Resource Centre, on a loan basis. The 15 series are available in 3 groups:

- (1) Elementary - an introduction to symbols;
- (2) Intermediate - includes three symbol strategies;
- (3) Advanced - four stories using symbols. Each group contains approximately five series of slides. The service charge will be \$5.00 per group or \$15.00 for the entire 15 series (750 slides).

(See order form for purchase details)

"UNE MANNIERE DE PARLER" "A MANNER OF SPEAKING"

This B.C.F. informational brochure is available now in both French and English. The booklet provides a history of our organization, the scope of our activities, and the nature and application of the symbol system itself. A copy of the publication can be obtained by contacting B.C.F. or Resource Centres. The Montreal Resource Centre has a supply of the French brochure. Additional copies available \$.50 each.

AUDIO-VISUAL LOAN MATERIALS

Each Resource Centre has been provided with a set of audio-visual loan materials for the purpose of loan to interested symbol users. If you require a video-tape or set of slides, please contact your nearest Resource Centre. If there is no Resource Centre in your area, then send your request to the B.C.F. in Toronto.

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ASSOCIATE MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

Symbol Applications

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>January 1978</u>
Communication	331
Language Development	212
Cognitive Development	97
Development of Reading Skills	54
International Communications	6
Other	12

Population

Physically-handicapped	232
Mentally Retarded	191
Multiply-handicapped	177
Deaf	33
Aphasic	45
Autistic	20
Blind	6
Stroke Patients	29
Delayed Language Development	60
Normal	10
Other	10

Age Group

Preschoolers	107
Children ages (5-12)	237
Adolescents (13-21)	119
Adults	76

Past users	239
Current users	2,015
Future users	1,857

Questionnaire Returns

We want to thank those of you who help us by completing the questionnaires we send out from time to time. This is the only way we currently collect data on symbol usage that is essential. The most recent questionnaire centred on the application of Blissymbols with adults. Tabulation of the result has not yet been completed; they will be published in the Bulletin as soon as they are available.

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

CBC Telecast - "The Nature of Things"

The telecast December 14, 1977, called "The People You Never See" was an excellent programme exploring the cerebral palsied person's need for acceptance and involvement in society. 16mm colour film copies of the programme will be available in a few weeks from the National Film Board offices in Canada. Main office:
National Film Board of Canada
P. O. Box 6100
Station A
Montreal, P. Q. H3C 3H5

"Nonspeech Visual Symbol Training"

A paper presented by Pamela Elder at the American Association of Mental Deficiency Annual Meeting, May 29 - June 3, 1977 is available through: The Desemo Project, Center for Developmental and Learning Disorders, the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Alabama (35294).

C.R.C.D. - Rehabilitation Digest

An excellent article has been published on Blissymbols in the Rehabilitation Digest published by C.R.C.D. The cover of the fall issue, 1977 is devoted to Blissymbols, as is the leading article. It is available from: Canadian Rehabilitation Council for the Disabled, Suite 2110, 1 Yonge Street, Toronto M5E 1E8.

Lynda Archer Article

The article by Lynda Archer, Speech Pathologist, Chedoke Hospitals, Hamilton, "Blissymbolics - A Non Verbal Communication System", Journal of Speech and Hearing Disorders, November 7, 1977 is available from the B.C.F. for \$1.00. The charge covers handling and mailing costs.

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